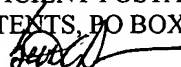


PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: MED-0025

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITH SUFFICIENT POSTAGE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON 24 Nov. 2003.  
BETH JOHNSON 

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: NARDEO, Mahase :

Serial No.: 10/651,114 :

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: August 28, 2003 :

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: **Releasably Locking Dilator and Sheath Assembly** :

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

It is requested that the reference(s) listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO- 1449 be considered by the Patent Examiner in connection with the above-identified application and be made of record therein.

Independent consideration and acknowledgment of the listed reference(s) are respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mahase Nardeo



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24 Nov 2003  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

APPLICANT: J. Daniel RAULERSON

Sheet 1 of 1

FILING DATE: February 26, 20030

GROUP ART UNIT:  
3763

(Use several sheets if necessary)

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EX. INIT <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup>			
	1.	4,596,559		Fleischhacker	06/24/1986	
	2.	4,772,266		Groshong	09/20/1988	
	3.	4,865,593		Ogawa et al.	09/12/1989	
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	12.	US 2003/0,088,264	A1	Spohn et al.	05/08/2003	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EX. INIT <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup>				

**OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

EX. INIT <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume/issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

**\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.**

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard S.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.